

Production No. 8F21

The Simpsons

"The Otto Show"

Written by

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Created by
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TABLE DRAFT

Date 9/25/91

NOTE: FOR TABLE READ ONLY

"THE OTTO SHOW"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....YEARDLEY SMITH
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
DEREK SMALLS.....HARRY SHEARER
DAVID ST. HUBBINS.....HANK AZARIA
NIGEL TUFNEL.....DAN CASTELLANETA
PATTY.....JULIE KAVNER
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
OTTO.....HARRY SHEARER
MAYOR QUIMBY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
POLICE CHIEF WIGGUM.....HANK AZARIA
PRINCIPAL SKINNER.....HARRY SHEARER
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
JIMBO.....PAMELA HAYDEN
NELSON.....JAY KOGEN
RALPH.....YEARDLEY SMITH
KENT BROCKMAN.....HARRY SHEARER
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER
BILL.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARTY.....HARRY SHEARER
BRITTANY.....PAMELA HAYDEN

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JAILBIRD.....HANK AZARIA
LESLEY.....HANK AZARIA
KIEFER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
T-SHIRT GUY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
COMIC BOOK STORE OWNER..HANK AZARIA
MAN.....HANK AZARIA
PANICKY MAN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
ROADIE.....DAN CASTELLANETA
STONED GUY.....HANK AZARIA
PROMOTER.....HANK AZARIA
ANNOUNCER.....HANK AZARIA
SECURITY GUARD.....DAN CASTELLANETA
BART GROUPIE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
BART GROUPIE #2.....YEARDLEY SMITH
DOORMAN.....HANK AZARIA
LANNY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
EMCEE.....DAN CASTELLANETA
LYKK.....HANK AZARIA
ACTRESS.....PAMELA HAYDEN
ACTOR.....HANK AZARIA
MARTIN.....PAMELA HAYDEN
ROOMMATE.....HANK AZARIA
HOMER'S BRAIN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
GUY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
TEENAGE BOY.....DAN CASTELLANETA
TEENAGE BOY #2.....HANK AZARIA

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FADE IN:

CLOSE UP - T-SHIRT

It reads: "Spinal Tap World Tour: London, Paris, Munich, Springfield". PULL BACK to see BART is wearing the t-shirt.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Bart calls up the stairs.

BART

Hey Homer, let's book! First ten thousand people get an official Spinal Tap shower cap.

HOMER comes down the stairs wearing a buckskin jacket with tons of fringe.

HOMER

Hey Marge, my concert going jacket still fits. (TO BART) And this is where I used to store my beer.

Homer reaches into his pocket.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(GASPS HAPPILY)

He pulls out a can of "Billy" beer. He **POPS** it open and takes a **SWIG**.

HOMER (CONT'D)

It must be left over from that Blue
Oyster Cult concert. (DRINKS BEER)
Ahh! Some things never go out of
style.

MARGE

Do the Spinal Taps play nice music?

LISA

It's Spinal Tap, Mom. And their
repertoire consists of thudding
sludge-rock with a thinly disguised
satanic message played at tissue-
destroying volumes.

MARGE

Oh dear.

BART

Pfft... hearing.

HOMER

Oh Marge, I went to a thousand heavy
metal concerts and it never hurt me.

HOMER'S POV

We hear Marge's voice coming in faintly under a **CONSTANT**
RINGING.

MARGE

Well, all right, but make sure they
don't pick up any of the band's
attitudes towards women... liquor...
religion... politics... really
anything.

BACK TO SCENE

HOMER

I hear ya.

INT. SIMPSON CAR - CONTINUOUS

Homer drives Bart to the concert as they listen to the
radio. Over the following, the car pulls up to Milhouse's.
Homer **HONKS**.

BILL (V.O.)

In other Spinal Tap news, Mayor
Quimby honored the aging supergroup
in a ceremony at City Hall.

MARTY (V.O.)

I guess you could say he was trying
to tap into the spines of young
voters.

BILL (V.O.)

(WEAK LAUGH) ... Yeah... Let's play
the tape.

MAYOR QUIMBY (V.O.)

I hereby rename the catwalk
connecting Old City Hall with New
City Hall, "Spinal Tap Catwalk"!

We hear **WEAK APPLAUSE**.

MAYOR QUIMBY (CONT'D V.O.)

(OFF MIC) What a crappy turn-out.

MILHOUSE opens the car door, wearing a black leather jacket, heavily studded and chained.

BART

Hey Milhouse, cool jacket!

MILHOUSE

I'm sweatin' like a pig.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - NIGHT

PAN PAST a bunch of t-shirt HAWKERS.

T-SHIRT GUY

Official "Tour '92" t-shirts, thirty-one dollars.

COMIC BOOK STORE OWNER

(BORED) Spinal Tap kicking Mo-mar
Kadaffy in the ass. The timeless
classic, now two for a buck.

Bart and Milhouse are looking over "Mutant Ninja Tap" and "Rasta Tap" bootlegs. Homer walks up, pleased with himself.

HOMER

Meet me in the car after the show,
boys. I just sold my ticket to that
kid for forty big ones!

Homer points to JIMBO, who is holding a ticket up in the air.

JIMBO

Who wants a ticket?

There is an instant **CLAMOR**.

MAN

I'll give you two-hundred bucks!

PANICKY MAN

I'll give you three.

HOMER

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

INT. COLISEUM - ARENA - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Bart and Milhouse enter. ROADIES are setting up the stage.

ROADIE

Test... test... one, two... test...

There is a **SMALL ROAR** from the CROWD. A frisbee sails towards the boys. Bart jumps and catches it, then accidentally throws it **SMACK** into the face of a **STONED GUY** seated three feet away. This looks like it would really hurt, but the guy doesn't even blink.

BART

Gee, I'm sorry.

STONED GUY

Huh?

BART

About the frisbee.

STONED GUY

Frisbee?

BART

I bounced it off your face.

STONED GUY

My what?

INT. COLISEUM - BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Backstage, BILL and MARTY are interviewing DEREK SMALLS, DAVID ST. HUBBINS, and NIGEL TUFNEL of Spinal Tap.

MARTY

Hey hey hey, Bill and Marty here.

BILL

And we are backstage rappin' with the Tap.

MARTY

You guys have been written off so many times.

BILL

And yet you keep coming back better than ever.

DAVID

Well, after the Berlin Wall fell, our records started selling on the right side of the Iron Curtain, and naturally that gave us a boost.

NIGEL

We're very big in Bulgaria, and wassisname, the other garia.

DAVID

Hungaria.

NIGEL

Hungary, wha'ever.

DEREK

I can't think of anyone who's
benefitted more from the death of
Communism than us.

NIGEL

Well, maybe the people who actually
live in the Communist countries.

DEREK

Oh. Hadn't thought of that. I bet
you're right.

INT. COLISEUM - ARENA - SIMULTANEOUS

BINOCULAR POV

We see a ROADIE setting stuff at the foot of the Spinal Tap
drum.

BART (V.O.)

What's he doing? What's he doing?

MILHOUSE (V.O.)

He's setting down drumsticks.. a
towel... three bottles of rum...

ANGLE - MILHOUSE

Milhouse is looking through big, old-fashioned binoculars.
A GUY comes up.

GUY

Hey, can I see those for a sec?

MILHOUSE

OK, but be careful. My grandpa had
them at Iwo Jima.

Milhouse hands them over. A few rows away a TEENAGE BOY
stands up.

TEENAGE BOY

Hey, can I see those binoculars?

GUY

Sure.

He tosses them over. Far in the distance another TEENAGE BOY stands up.

TEENAGE BOY #2

Yo dude!

The first teenage boy chucks the binoculars in his direction.

INT. COLISEUM - BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Bill and Marty put down their microphones.

BILL

Say fellows, I wonder if you'd mind recording a couple of promos for us.

NIGEL

Like what?

MARTY

Maybe you could say, "Nobody rocks like Bill and Marty on KBBL."

DAVID

Well, we don't know that, do we?

NIGEL

What if somebody rocks as good as you?

DEREK

Or better. I mean, we don't want to look stupid.

BILL

Okay, we can respect that.

MARTY

How about "Rock-a-doodle-do, you're
listening to Bill and Marty."

DAVID, NIGEL, & DEREK

Sure.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CONERT ARENA - A LITTLE LATER

The place is filled up and the crowd is CHANTING.

CROWD

Spinal Tap! Spinal Tap! Spinal Tap!

BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Spinal Tap is dressing down the concert PROMOTER.

DAVID

I just looked out, and there's
puddles of water all over the
freakin' stage!

PROMOTER

(NERVOUS LAUGH) Uh, look, I won't
lie to you. Six days a week, this
place is a hockey rink.

DEREK

Can't you run that ice tractor over
it or something?

PROMOTER

The Zamboni? No, that actually adds
water.

NIGEL

Oh, don't want to be doing that then.

INT. ARENA - A LITTLE LATER

The lights dim and the crowd roars.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.
Duff Beer, in association with
Laramie Cigarettes, is proud to bring
you...

We hear portentous WIND noises. A spotlight hits the
darkened stage, revealing David. He SINGS a cappella:

DAVID

We are the children who grew too
fast...

A second spotlight hits Nigel.

DAVID & NIGEL

We are the dust of the future past...

A third spotlight comes up which is supposed to illuminate
Derek, but only hits his arm. He edges into the center as
the three SING a cappella harmony.

DAVID, NIGEL, & DEREK

We raise our voices into the night/
Crying to heaven...

The lights come up as they hit POWER CHORDS and the drums
kick in.

DAVID

And will our voices be heard/

Or will they Break Like The Wind!

A guy with one arm and an eyepatch sets off a FLASHPOT.

LIGHTING and THUNDER effects as the band goes into the hard-rocking part of the song. The crowd goes wild. Bart and Milhouse happily bang their foreheads together.

DAVID

Break like the wind!

A bored ROADIE in the wings turns on a giant fan. The WIND blows David's hair up, revealing thinning hair, carefully combed over.

DAVID

(YELLING AT ROADIE) Medium setting!

INT. SIMPSON CAR - CONTINUOUS

Homer sits behind the wheel, happily munching on junk food and bopping along to "Summer Samba" on an easy listening station.

INT. COLISEUM - LATER

Spinal Tap winds up "Break Like the Wind" with the usual heavy-metal finish: windmill chords, extended noodling, a final cymbal CRASH. The crowd CHEERS.

In the front row of the balcony, a fan unfurls a huge banner, but it's upside down. Nigel tilts his head until he's able to read "SPINAL TAP RULES".

NIGEL

Thank you!

DAVID

All riiiiight! This morning we were

driving down...(DRAMATICALLY) Route

401...

At the mention of this Springfield Highway, the crowd GOES NUTS.

BART

That's only four miles from my house!

MILHOUSE

Oh man, I wish I was you.

NIGEL

And we thought they knew how to rock
in Shelbyville...

The crowd BOOS.

DEREK

But nobody rocks like...

He checks the back of his guitar, where "SPRINGFIELD" is
written.

DEREK (CONT.)

...Springfield!

More CHEERS.

INT. COLISEUM - MINUTES LATER

Tap finishes up another song. The melting of the ice rink
has apparently accelerated, as the band is now splashing
around in an inch of water.

A huge devil has inflated behind the band, but it droops
badly. (It resembles the Devil in "Bart Gets Hit By A
Car".)

NIGEL

(ON MIKE, PISSED) Apparently, some
idiot didn't get a big enough oxygen
pump, but that's supposed to be a
devil.

DAVID

Filled up with air it's very evil and
impressive.

DEREK

(MAKING DEVIL SALUTE) We salute you,
our half-inflated Dark Lord.

DISSOLVE TO:

STAGE - A LITTLE LATER

The drummer is executing a furious solo. In the audience, a beach ball is being batted around. Bart comes into the crowd from off-screen to join a bored-looking Milhouse.

BART

Man, what a line at the
bathroom...(PUZZLED) Hey wait, he
was playing a drum solo when I left.

MILHOUSE

Same one.

NIGEL

(POINTING TO DRUMMER) Ladies and
Gentlemen, Mr. Denny Clifton-James!

The drummer throws the sticks away and starts playing the drums with his hands. For the finish, he **HITS** the **CYMBAL** with his head. The crowd **CHEERS**.

DEREK

Y'know, people think there are only
five members of Spinal Tap, but
they're wrong.

Long pause.

DAVID

(ANNOYED) Could we turn the
houselights up, please? That's the
cue to turn up the houselights, so we
can tell the audience that they're
the sixth member of the freakin'
group.

NIGEL

We're trying to put a tiny thrill
into their gray little lives.

Bart hits the beach ball up onto stage. The drummer leans
back to hit it and falls backwards. He grabs a microphone
for support but comes down with it. They land in a puddle
of water and the drummer is electrocuted.

NIGEL

Oh my God. Now you've killed our
drummer, that's it.

DAVID

Goodnight, Springton. There will be
no encores.

They take off their instruments and SPLASH offstage. The
audience MURMURS discontentedly.

ANGLE - BART & MILHOUSE

MILHOUSE

(CHECKS WATCH) They were only on for
twenty minutes!

BART

What a gyp!

We see OTTO sitting with his JAILBIRD friend.

OTTO

Pretty good show!

JAILBIRD

Wanna trash the stage?

OTTO

OK.

The crowd starts to rush the stage.

BART

Cool! A beer fueled riot!

Bart is swept along by the destructive mob charging the stage.

ANGLE - PROMOTER

He turns to his security force.

PROMOTER

Well, don't just stand there!

Control that crowd!

SECURITY GUARD

(CHICKEN TEENAGER VOICE) Are you
kidding? We're just overweight
community college students wearing
t-shirts with "Security" on them.

PROMOTER

Arrrgh!

INT. SIMPSON CAR - CONTINUOUS

Homer is still munching on snack food. An easy listening version of "Spanish Flea" is on the radio. Behind Homer we see police cars with flashing lights SCREECH up and park in front of the stadium. Cops charge into the Coliseum with rifles drawn.

HOMER

(SINGS) There was a little Spanish
Flea... He said a singing star I'll
be...

INT. CONCERT ARENA

We see rioters knocking over stacks of amplifiers and
fighting with the police.

PULL BACK TO:

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

MARGE, MAGGIE and LISA are watching all this on TV.

KENT BROCKMAN (V.O.)

Tonight a city weeps as, for the
first time ever, a hockey arena
becomes a scene of violence --
following a concert by Spinal Tap.

MARGE

(VERY WORRIED) Oh, Bart...

Kent appears before the "My Two Cents" logo.

KENT BROCKMAN

Of course, it would be wrong to
suggest that this sort of mayhem
began with rock and roll. After all,
there were riots at the premiere of
Mozart's "The Magic Flute". So
what's the answer? Ban all music?
In this reporter's opinion the
answer, sadly, is yes.

BART (V.O.)

(CHEERFULLY) Hi, Mom.

MARGE

Oh, thank God!

Bart walks in. She hugs him. Bart's clothes are ripped and his hair is disheveled. Homer enters.

HOMER

Marge, I know this looks bad, but he was never in any danger. I never left his side.

LISA

(POINTING AT TV) Hey, look, it's Bart!

On the television Bart is swinging above the crowd on a cable like Tarzan. He falls off into the crowd **HOLLERING**.

HOMER

(ANNOYED GRUNT)

Marge MURMURS at Homer, then turns her motherly attention to Bart.

MARGE

Oh, my poor little guy, were you frightened?

BART

Mom, I want to be a rock star.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MAGGIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Marge and Homer are tucking in Maggie.

MARGE

Homer, I've been thinking about what Bart said. If he's really interested in being a musician, maybe we should encourage him.

HOMER

Oh, sure! Let's record a whole Simpsons family album! (SNORTS)
Give the record-buying public some credit, Marge.

MARGE

No Homer, I just meant maybe we should buy him a guitar.

HOMER

Well, that's a waste of money. We already have a guitar.

Homer produces a toy guitar. He turns the crank and we hear "Pop Goes the Weasel".

MARGE

I meant a real guitar.

HOMER

(WHINING) That sounds expensive.

MARGE

Can you think of a better investment
than the dreams of our children?

HOMER'S BRAIN (V.O.)

Beer. But don't say it or she'll get
mad.

HOMER

(GRUDGING) No.

We hear Lisa starting to play her saxophone. Homer looks
annoyed.

HOMER

(TO MAGGIE) With my luck, you'll
have musical talent, too.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BART'S ROOM - A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER

Marge and Homer look on as Bart holds an electric guitar.

BART

Wow!

MARGE

This one came with a free instruction
book and a packet of color-encoded
stickers that show you where to put
your fingers.

Marge holds up a sheet of small oval stickers and a "Guitar
Instruction" book. The cover shows a black-and-white photo
of a smiling, crew-cut boy wearing a bowtie and holding an
acoustic guitar.

HOMER

Now boy, we just spent a lot of
money. So you better get real good
real fast or pow!

Homer swings a fist in Bart's direction.

MARGE

Homer!

HOMER

I thought I was supposed to encourage
him.

Homer and Marge exit. Bart, still holding the guitar,
fantasizes about being a rock star.

RIPPLE DISSOLVE
TO:

BART'S FANTASY

Bart holds the guitar on stage before a stadium of
screaming fans, looking cool and unimpressed. He is
wearing a headband, a leather vest, and no shirt, so his
fat belly pokes out.

Bart casually wipes some sweat off his forehead and flicks
it at the crowd. A drop lands on a TEENAGE GIRL'S arm.
She SQUEALS and FAINTS.

Bart leans into the mike.

BART

(SULLEN BRITISH ACCENT) I'd like to
play me latest chart-topper. It's
called "Hope I Die Before I Turn
Twelve."

This is too much for the girls, who storm the stage,
desperate for a souvenir. Bart YELLS as he is swallowed by
the mob.

BART GROUPIE

I got his headband!

Another girl holds up what appears to be a yellow saw-blade.

BART GROUPIE #2

I got his hair!

RIPPLE DISSOLVE
TO:

Bart looking dreamy.

HOMER (V.O.)

I don't hear any practicing!

Bart is jolted out of his reverie.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Bart has his guitar (with stickers now on the frets). Lisa has her saxophone.

Consulting his manual, Bart painfully picks our "Polly Wolly Doodle". It sounds pretty bad. Lisa joins in, echoing what Bart plays but adding lots of impressive frills.

BART

Knock it off.

LISA

(MOCK INNOCENCE) I'm sorry?

BART

Knock it off.

LISA

(SMUG) I was just jamming with you.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Bart is in the tub. Homer walks by.

HOMER

(STERN) Boy, why aren't you
practicing?

BART

I don't want to be electrocuted.

Homer thinks this over for a long time.

HOMER

Pretty good excuse.

EXT. SCHOOL BUS STOP - MORNING

Bart is practicing "Polly Wolly Doodle", no improvement.
NELSON walks up.

NELSON

Hey, Simpson, what are you trying to
play?

BART

(SMALL VOICE) Polly Wolly Doodle.

NELSON

Sounds like Polly Wolly Crap. Hanh
hanh! Burn.

The bus has pulled up. Nelson and Lisa get on ahead of a
dejected Bart.

OTTO

Cherry axe, Bart-dude.

BART

(SADLY) I think there's something
wrong with it.

OTTO

Really? Give it here.

Otto takes the guitar. Without warning, he launches into a powerful twelve second **SOLO**. The kids **CHEER**.

BART

I didn't know you played the guitar,
Otto-man!

OTTO

Hey, that's all I did in high school.
My old man said I was wasting my time
and I'd never amount to anything.

(LAUGHS)

Halfway through the LAUGH, it dawns on Otto that his dad may have been on to something there.

OTTO (CONT'D)

(STRUMS GUITAR) And now I'd like to
slow things down a little...

He starts playing "Freebird".

OTTO

(SINGING) If I leave here
tomorrow... would you still remember
me?

INT. BUS - LATER

Otto is really rocking on "Freebird".

OTTO

(SINGING) And this bird you cannot
chaeaeaeange...waowaowaowaow...

In the bus the kids are waving their arms back and forth. Many hold up lit cigarette lighters. MARTIN PRINCE stands up.

MARTIN

Although I'm sure I will receive a
severe wedgie from my busmates, I
must remind you we should have been
at school ten minutes ago.

Otto stops playing.

OTTO

Uh oh. Better fasten your seatbelts,
little dudes.

LISA

We don't have seatbelts.

OTTO

Oh yeah.

Otto **PEALS OUT** and the kids go flying.

EXT. BUS - A LITTLE LATER

The bus **ZOOMS** along.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

OTTO

(CHECKS WATCH) Better take a
shortcut.

He turns into the **SPRINGFIELD TIRE YARD**, labeled as such.

INT. TIRE YARD - CONTINUOUS

We see a huge pile of flaming tires. Suddenly the bus
bursts through it as the kids **SCREAM**.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD DRAWBRIDGE - A LITTLE LATER

The drawbridge is opening. Otto drives up in the bus and
leaps over the gap. Kids **SCREAM**.

EXT. CITY PARK - CONTINUOUS

Pan down from an "ANNUAL POLICE PICNIC" banner to a bunch of chubby cops eating burgers. CHIEF WIGGUM is at the grill.

Suddenly, the bus crashes into the middle of the picnic, smashing the grill and sending the cops diving for safety.

WIGGUM

Good Lord! Did anyone get the
license number?

The cops AD-LIB "Nope", "Didn't think to look", etc.

WIGGUM (CONT'D)

What kind of vehicle was it?

More AD-LIBS: "Search me", "Dunno", etc.

WIGGUM (CONT'D)

Well... send out an APB on a ...
yellow truck.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

As the kids continue to SCREAM the bus turns over on its side, skids along, and SLAMS into the statue of Jebediah Springfield.

The fender snaps off and tumbles end-over-end down the sidewalk. It comes to a stop at the feet of several concerned citizens.

CLOSE-UP - BUMPER STICKER

It reads "HOW'S MY DRIVING?" with a phone number.

The citizens rush into nearby phone booths and start dialing.

INT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - CONTINUOUS - DAY

PRINCIPAL SKINNER is dressing down Otto.

SKINNER

Doggoneit, Otto, you're going through a bus every two months here. The DMV says they're going to revoke your license, and this time I think they mean it!

OTTO

Joke's on them. I don't have a license!

SKINNER

What? Well, that tears it. Until you get a license you are suspended without pay.

OTTO

Fine. I don't need your stinkin' money. (BEAT) Oh, wait, I do.

SKINNER

(DRAMATICALLY) Give me your key.

Otto hands him a key attached to a large rubber skull with jewel eyes.

OTTO

But...who's going to drive the bus?

SKINNER

I drove an all terrain vehicle in Da Nang. I think I can handle it.

EXT. SCHOOL BUS - DAY

A group of kids, among them Bart and Lisa, are waiting to go home. A bus pulls up and the doors open. Skinner is behind the wheel.

SKINNER

All aboard the SS Skinner!

BART

Where's Otto?

SKINNER

Otto won't be driving the bus for
awhile. And I've got his skull to
prove it.

He holds up Otto's key chain.

BART

(GASPS)

Skinner closes the doors and puts the bus in gear.

SKINNER

Off we go!

The kids start SINGING "Hail to the Bus Driver" (same tune
as "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie").

KIDS

Hail to the bus driver, bus driver,
bus driver/Hail to the bus driver,
bus driver man.

Skinner good-naturedly joins in.

KIDS & SKINNER

He drinks and he cusses/He stinks up
the busses/Hail to the bus driver,
bus driver man! (SKINNER:) Ha ha!

The bus pulls up to where the school parking lot joins the
street. Traffic whizzes by.

SKINNER

Dum de dum... There's an opening.
Let's see, how do you put this thing
in gear - whoops! Too
late!...Nope...Nope...That'd be
cutting it a little close.

LISA

I think you have to be more
aggressive.

SKINNER

Nonsense. One of our good citizens
will slow down and wave me in.

Skinner HUMS to himself as a car goes by. And another one.
And another one.

EXT. DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES - ESTABLISHING

EXT. TESTING AREA - DAY

Otto stands with PATTY, who's wearing a labcoat and holding
a clipboard.

PATTY

My name's Patty. I'll be grading
your performance. (POINTS TO SHIRT
POCKET) When you do good, I use the
green pen. When you do bad, I use
the red pen. Any questions?

OTTO

Have you always been a chick?

Patty throws away the green pen.

PATTY

I won't be needing this.

INT. TESTING AREA

Patty administers the oral part of the test.

PATTY

When is it appropriate to use flares?

OTTO

Only if the cigarette lighter's
broken.

Patty pulls out her red pen.

PATTY

Click.

She **CLICKS** the pen and starts writing.

EXT. SERPENTINE COURSE - DAY

CLOSE-UP - TRAFFIC CONE

It's flattened by a bus wheel. We see that Otto has left a trail of knocked-over traffic cones. He brushes the last one, which wobbles like a bowling pin. Otto urges it down with his body English and it finally topples.

OTTO

All right!

Patty writes in her pad.

PATTY

Uh oh, running out of ink. Ah,
doesn't matter, I can squeeze out one
last zero.

OTTO

(GENUINELY SURPRISED) You mean
you're flunking me?

PATTY

Yup.

OTTO

How can I change your mind?

PATTY

You can pull a gun on me...(THINKS)

Nah, I'd still flunk you.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - TWILIGHT

The bus has not moved. Traffic continues to zoom by. Skinner has taken off his jacket and loosened his tie. He needs a shave.

SKINNER

(WILD-EYED TO CARS) Let me in! Let
me in!

He leans on the HORN.

RALPH

(SINGS) He steps on the clutch, and
the toilet goes flush/Hail to the--

SKINNER

Shaddap!...All right, seems the only
way to get anything in this world is
to take it.

Skinner lets out the clutch and slowly inches forward.

INT. HOMER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Homer, coming home from work, sees the bus inching out.

HOMER

Sorry, buddy. My right of way.

Homer steps on the gas.

ANGLE - SKINNER

He sees Homer coming, throws it into reverse, and backs up hastily. Homer speeds through.

HOMER

(CHUCKLES)

EXT. SIMPSON STREET - NIGHT

The moon is high in the sky as Skinner drops off the last of the kids

FLANDERS HOUSE

Through the window, Todd is being hugged by Ned and Maude.

FLANDERS

(SOBBING) My son, my son...(LOOKS

UP) Thank you.

Pan over to the:

SIMPSON HOUSE

Homer is blankly watching TV. We hear Kent Brockman do the news.

KENT BROCKMAN (V.O.)

Rumors are flying in the case of the
missing school bus. Police suspect
the involvement of organized crime --

Lisa and Bart run in.

BART/LISA

Dad! Dad!

HOMER

(NOT LOOKING UP) Shh, I'm waiting
for the lotto numbers.

EXT. SEEDY APARTMENT BUILDING - THE NEXT DAY

OTTO (V.O.)

I just want you to know I won't be
able to pay my share of the rent for
the next few months. Is that a
problem?

ROOMMATE (V.O.)

Yes.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

He has a spare bachelor pad decorated with heavy metal
posters, etc. Otto is talking to his roommate. Bart is
there too.

OTTO

Well, guess I gotta hit the streets
with nothing but my guitar and my
toothbrush.

ROOMMATE

That's my toothbrush.

OTTO

Oh, yeah. But it's my guitar, right?

ROOMMATE

Yeah, sure.

The roommate exits.

OTTO

Oh man. No job, no home. Very few
chicks dig that.

BART

Listen, Otto. The other day as the schoolbus was sliding along the pavement I thought to myself, "That guy ought to be a guitar player."

OTTO

Well, I could get the old band back together.

BART

Wow! You're in a band?

OTTO

Yeah, every Saturday night we redefined the boundaries of rock. Well, not every Saturday night. (THINKS) I think we played together twice.

BART

Well, that's something. And you can stay at my house until you guys hit it big.

OTTO

Are you sure? We might be talking a couple of weeks here.

BART

No problemo.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - DINING ROOM - EVENING

The Simpsons are eating.

BART

(CASUALLY) Hey, Mom, can I have a
friend sleep over tonight?

MARGE

Sure.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - 3 A.M.

Marge and Homer are sleeping. Suddenly, the silence is shattered by a very loud, heavy-metal rock song. They are jolted awake by the vibrating room. Maggie's crib appears at the door, vibrating down the hall.

INT. SIMPSON GARAGE - 3:01 A.M.

Marge, Homer and Lisa enter the garage in their bathrobes. Otto's band has taken over. Bart plays a tambourine.

OTTO

I wanna rock, so I guess I will/ I'm
gonna rock and rock 'til I get my
fill...

Otto finishes the song with an extremely long, raking power chord, then notices the Simpsons.

OTTO (CONT'D)

Hey.

MARGE

Bart, what's going on?

BART

You said I could have a friend sleep
over.

HOMER

He's got you there, Marge. Let's go
back to sleep.

MARGE

(EXASPERATED) Who are these people?

BART

You know Otto...

MARGE

No, I don't.

BART

Well, you will.

Pan across the grungy band members.

BART (CONT'D)

That's Lanny Waddell, he drives the
school bus in Shelbyville...

LANNY

Yo.

BART

Long John Fusco, he drives the
airport shuttle bus...

JAILBIRD

When I'm not in jail. Huh huh huh...

BART

Lesley Crowe...

LESLEY

(THROUGH GUITAR VIA VOCODER) Hel-lo.

BART

And Kiefer Bogan.

KIEFER

We're all bus drivers!

LANNY

Guess the name of our group.

LISA

The Bus Drivers?

OTTO

(STRUCK) No...But that's much better
than the name we got! From now on
we're the Bus Drivers!

He thrusts his fist in the air. The other band members go
"Yeah!" and thrust their fists in the air.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - 3:30 A.M.

The Simpsons and Otto sit around the kitchen table.

MARGE

I don't understand this. Why can't
you stay with your parents?

OTTO

The admiral and I don't get along.
Besides, I feel much closer to you
and, uh...

HOMER

Homer.

OTTO

I think of you as my parents.

HOMER

(FLATTERED) Thanks!

MARGE

We're only five years older than you!

OTTO

Yeah, but the way you've taken me
into your home...

MARGE

Stop saying things like that!

BART

Otto's going through a tough time
right now. Can't he stay with us for
a little while?

OTTO

(TO HOMER) I can wire up your
Pontiac so it goes 180!

HOMER

Woww...

RIPPLE DISSOLVE:

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - FANTASY

Homer and Marge are watching the news. Kent Brockman
stands in front of an overturned truck. The super "Live"
is underneath him.

KENT BROCKMAN

The beer truck is overturned twenty
miles outside of Springfield, spewing
its cool, frosty cargo high into the
air.

MARGE

Homer, look at all that free beer.

Homer runs out the door.

SXF: RAPID FOOTSTEPS, CAR ROARING TO LIFE.

MARGE (CONT'D)

Homer?

She turns back to look at the TV. Homer, with his souped-up car beside him is sitting by the beer truck. His mouth is open and he happily guzzles the foaming spout of beer.

RIPPLE DISSOLVE:

BACK TO SCENE

HOMER

He's got my vote.

MARGE

(RELUCTANT) Well...I guess you can sleep on the couch tonight.

OTTO

All right! On our first album, I'm gonna write a song about you!

(SINGS, AIR GUITARS) Marge, she's a
de de de large, dum de de de de
barge...

MARGE

(GOING UPSTAIRS) Just...rinse off
your dishes.

MONTAGE

1) GARAGE

Using a stencil, Bart spraypaints "The Bus Drivers" on the bass drum. The result looks like a Rorschach blot, but the band members thrust their fists into the air anyway.

2) DRIVEWAY

Otto slams the hood of Homer's car and gives a thumbs-up. Homer eases the gearshift into reverse and immediately zooms backwards over a distant rise.

HOMER

(SCREAMS)

Otto winces.

3) INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN

Otto and Maggie are at the kitchen table, painting pictures with water colors. Otto's picture is an elaborate album cover design showing the Bus Drivers all sitting on a very long unicorn, floating through space.

4) INT. GARAGE

Bart and Homer watch Otto's band practice.

HOMER

Hey, I haven't heard you play your guitar in a while.

BART

Well, I wasn't good at it right away, so I quit. Hope you're not disappointed.

HOMER

Of course not. If something's hard to do, then it's not worth doing. Now you just put that guitar in the closet with your short wave radio, your karate outfit, and your unicycle.

BART

(SMILES) Unicycle... what was I
thinking?

EXT. SIMPSON SIDEWALK - MORNING

Bart and Lisa are holding their schoolbooks and lunchboxes.
Bart has painted "BUSHEADS PARTY NAKED" on his t-shirt.
The bus lurches jerkily to a stop, the gears **GRINDING**.
Skinner opens the door and sees Bart's shirt.

SKINNER

Oh no you don't. Go change your
shirt. That message undermines
everything our school stands for.

LISA

I hardly think the educational system
is threatened by a t-shirt slogan.

ANGLE - KIDS ON BUS

BRITTANY

Did you see Bart's t-shirt?

RALPH

Yeah! No more studying for me.

MILHOUSE

It cuts into party time!

NELSON

Academic achievement is for the
birds.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Marge talks to Bart. GRAMPA is napping on the couch.

MARGE

No, Bart, we are not taking you to a bar.

BART

It's not a bar. They lost their liquor license for selling beer to minors. And this will be the Bus Drivers' first public appearance.

MARGE

Sorry, Charlie.

She exits. Bart walks over and shakes Grandpa, who wakes up with a START.

BART

Hey, Grandpa, will you take me to a rock club?

GRAMPA

Why should I?

BART

Well...don't old people secretly like rock 'n' roll?

GRAMPA

(SNORTS) Where'd you get that fool idea?

BART

TV, where else?

GRAMPA

Well, you're wrong. I haven't liked
a song since "Boo Hoo, I'm Crying In
My Shoe". And don't tell me there'll
be a lot of cute girls there, because
old people don't like sex neither.

BART

So will you take me?

GRAMPA

Okay.

EXT. ROCK CLUB - NIGHT

Establishing shot of "THE ROCK CLUB - formerly CLUB ROCK".
The marquee reads: "Tonight: Battle of the Bands!"

INT. ROCK CLUB

Bart and Grampa (wearing a straw boater) enter the club.
The joint is packed.

BART

When do the bus Drivers go on?

DOORMAN

Right after Lykk. (PRONOUNCED

"LICK")

We see a band on stage. The drum reads "Lykk". The lead
singer, a handsome, muscular Rock God with waist-length
blonde hair launches into a virtuoso GUITAR SOLO. He hops
onto a mini-trampoline and -- without missing a note --
does a split-jump, a back-flip, and an impossible Greg
Louganis double-flip with a twist, landing on the stage on
the final downbeat. The crowd GOES NUTS.

BART

Aye carrumba!

DISSOLVE TO:

SAME SCENE - TWENTY MINUTES LATER

The singer is being passed around on the audience's hands as he plays another solo. He lands on Grampa's head. Grampa OOPS.

LYKK

Pull you weight, old dude.

GRAMPA

(PUSHING) Get offa me!

Lykk's lead singer is transported back to the stage as he finishes the song. WILD APPLAUSE.

LYKK

Nine encores is enough. Goodnight!

AUDIENCE

Lykk! Lykk! Lykk!

EMCEE

Whew! Touch act to follow. I sure
feel sorry for...(CHECKS CARD) Otto
and the Bus Drivers!

The Bus Drivers troop out. The crowd is still CHANTING
"Lykk! Lykk! Lykk!" Otto steps to the mic.

OTTO

Uh...Hello Springfield! Are you
ready to rock?

AUDIENCE

Not with you! Lykk! Lykk! Lykk!

Otto looks ready to pack it in. Then he sees Bart at the edge of the stage, his face shining with youthful encouragement. We hear INSPIRING MUSIC.

BART

Come on, Otto-man. I believe in you.

Otto smiles, his confidence restored. He turns to the band.

OTTO

Let's do it. A-one-two-three-faw!

The Bus Drivers launch into their song, playing with greater power and purpose than they've ever shown before.

Unfortunately, that still isn't good enough. The crowd stops chanting "Lykk", but the Bus Drivers aren't thrilling them. People check their watches, hit the bathroom, etc. Nobody is dancing. Otto turns to Kiefer.

OTTO

What do I do?

KIEFER

Try diving into the crowd.

Otto runs out of frame. Off-camera, we hear a THUD.

ANGLE - OTTO

He is lying on the floor, among the audience's feet.

OTTO

(MOANS IN PAIN)

Otto crawls back onstage. On cue, the band stops playing and starts **CLAPPING** their hands over their heads in time to the beat. The audience is clearly supposed to clap along, but except for Bart, they don't take the bait.

Lanny, Kiefer, and Lesley soon get tired of clapping and stop. Then Bart stops, and Otto is the only one clapping. Finally, Otto stops, too.

SFX: CRICKETS

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY
ON TV

A SOAP ACTRESS sits up in bed as a SOAP ACTOR ties his tie.

ACTRESS

Jack, where are you going?

ACTOR

Away from you, baby.

ACTRESS

I thought you loved me!

ACTOR

(SNEERING) You thought.

PULL BACK to see Otto is sprawled out on the couch,
watching TV. He is shirtless and scratching his chest.

OTTO

That guy needs to get his act
together.

MARGE

Otto, I'm sorry your band broke up...

OTTO

They didn't break up. They're
roadies for Lykk.

MARGE

Well, you just can't sit around
watching soap operas all day.

OTTO

You're right. I should do a little reading. (CHECKS BOOKSHELF) You got any of those "Where's Waldo" books?

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

As Marge scrubs the oven, Otto is on the floor playing with Maggie, running a toy bus with little wobbly people in it over her belly. Maggie is wearing Otto's headphones.

MARGE

What's Maggie listening to?

OTTO

I dunno. "I"-something-"Satan".
Don't worry, I turned the volume down. (WISTFUL BUS NOISE) Vroom vroom.

Marge gets a thoughtful look. Otto **CRASHES** the toy bus into a wall and the little people fall out.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Marge and Homer sit on the couch.

MARGE

I think we should tell Otto to take that driving test again. If he got his job back, he could get his own place.

HOMER

I don't know, Marge. He might take that the wrong way and think you want him to leave.

MARGE

I do want him to leave! He's been here a month.

HOMER

Oh, but Marge, he's saved me from having to do so much of that parenting crap. You know, that "How was school today?" stuff. And right now he's putting the kids to bed.

We PAN UP through the ceiling. There are treasures hidden in the floorboards: open sacks of gold, crowns, sceptres, etc.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lisa is in bed. Otto is telling her a scary story.

OTTO

(DRAMATICALLY) ... So the lady drove faster, but the strange car kept banging into her from behind. So finally she swerved off the road into the woods and lost the other car.

(QUIETLY) And that's when she realized the man in the other car wasn't trying to hurt her. He was trying to warn her... about the maniac hiding in her back seat!

LISA

(PETRIFIED, TINY VOICE) Did the maniac kill her?

OTTO

For starters. And you know how I
know all the details of this story?

LISA

How?

OTTO

Because... (LEANS IN) I was that
maniac!

Lisa SCREAMS.

OTTO (CONT'D)

(ALARMED) Hey, hey, just kidding.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marge and Homer listen as Lisa continues to SCREAM.

MARGE

(ANNOYED MURMUR) That's it. In the
morning he's leaving.

HOMER

But Marge, other than his real family
we're the only family he's got.

MARGE

I'm sorry, but this is not "Happy
Days" and he's not the Fonz.

OTTO

(ENTERING) Heyyy, Mr. S...Heyyy,
Mrs. S...

MARGE

Otto, we're going to have a talk.

OTTO

To-nar.

MARGE

What?

HOMER

Totally gnarly, Marge.

INT. SIMPSON ATTIC - A LITTLE LATER

Marge is looking for something.

MARGE

Otto, I want to show you something
I've never shown anyone before.

OTTO

Some of those alien pod things?

MARGE

No, my diary. Here. Take a look.

She unlocks her diary and opens it.

OTTO

"Dear diary: I love Ringo so so so
much. When I grow up I will marry
him on the Johnny Carson program."

MARGE

Pretty silly, huh?

OTTO

Yeah. So, did you, uh...? (POINTS AT
DIARY)

MARGE

No, I never married Ringo. And I'm
sorry, but you're never going to be a
famous rock star. Now, tomorrow
you're going to get a real job and
then you're going to pack your things
and leave.

OTTO

Hm. Gee, this is a tough decision.

MARGE

There's nothing for you to decide. I
want you to go.

OTTO

(CRESTFALLEN) Oh.

INT. SIMPSON GARAGE - MORNING

Otto is looking at the DMV booklet, trying to study.

OTTO

(SHOCKED) Yellow light means what?!

Bart enters.

BART

So, Otto. Are you going to pass?

OTTO

Oh man. We're dealing with fourteen
pages of facts and figures here! And
besides there's this man-hating she-
male at the DMV-

BART

That's my Aunt Patty!

Bart grabs the Driver's Ed booklet away from Otto.

BART (CONT'D)

Otto, you don't need this book!

There's only one thing you have to
remember to pass that test!

OTTO

Cool! Just write it on my hand.

He extends his palm.

EXT. DMV TESTING GROUNDS - DAY

Patty approaches Otto as before.

PATTY

Well, if it isn't Wee Willy Washout.

OTTO

Yeah, thought I'd give it another
shot.

PATTY

Alright, which part would you like to
fail first?

He looks at his hand.

OTTO

Y'know, Homer Simpson is a very
stupid man.

This stops Patty cold. She turns and looks at Otto with
new eyes.

PATTY

You've been studying, haven't you?

INT. TESTING AREA - LATER

Patty gives the oral test.

PATTY

"At 55 miles per hour, how many feet
should be between you and the car
ahead of you?"

OTTO

(THINKS) Five?

PATTY

No, 200.

OTTO

Uh, I knew that. I was just giving
Homer Simpson's IQ.

Patty **LAUGHS HEARTILY** and writes in her pad.

INT. TESTING BUS - LATER

Otto drives along with Patty sitting next to him.

EXT. TESTING AREA - CONTINUOUS

The testing area has a simulated bus stop, with a "BUS
STOP" sign and a life-size cardboard cut-out of a man
hailing a bus. Otto's bus approaches the area way too fast
and comes to a SCREECHING halt, flattening the cut-out.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

Patty shakes her head and makes SCOLDING NOISES.

PATTY

What if that had been a real person?

OTTO

What if that had been Homer Simpson?

PATTY

You know just what a woman wants to hear.

CLOSE-UP - GRADING SHEET

Big green check next to "STOPPING".

EXT. TESTING AREA - DAY

Patty has her clipboard out and is busily writing something.

OTTO

Stop me if you've heard this one.
What's the difference between a
smelly pig with no brains and Homer
Sim --

PATTY

Give it a rest, okay? You passed.

OTTO

I did?

PATTY

(POINTS) That's your grade, and
that's my phone number.

She pats Otto on the butt and exits. Otto stares lovingly at the certificate.

OTTO

All riiight! And all I had to do
was bad-mouth the man who took me
into his home.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Otto runs by the Simpsons' house. Marge and Homer happen to be standing on the porch, arm in arm.

OTTO

Marge! Homer! I passed!

As Otto runs on, Homer gets teary.

HOMER

Our boy's grown up.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD INTERSECTION - MOMENTS LATER

Principal Skinner is once again leaning on the HORN, looking for an opening to merge into traffic.

SKINNER

Come on!!...Every driver in the world
is against me...I see it all
now...Big conspiracy...

Otto appears in front of the bus and slaps his license on the windshield.

OTTO

Hey Skinner, I got my license! Can I
have my old job back?

Skinner opens the bus doors, Otto climbs in.

SKINNER

Well, on one condition...(CHUCKLING)
You have to start immediately!

Skinner vacates the driver's seat, Otto fills it. The kids
CHEER.

BART

Way to go, Otto-man.

OTTO

Thanks for giving me a "hand."

He holds up his hand, on which he's written "Homer Sucks".
He and Bart high-five.

OTTO

Let's rock and roll!

Otto pops the clutch and ZOOMS into traffic, causing a couple of approaching cars to jackknife. The kids CHEER. Otto turns on the radio.

FM DEEJAY

...This morning, 10,000 rabid Lykk
fans jammed New York's La Guardia
Airport--

Otto CLICKS it off. The merest shadow of regret passes across his face, then he turns and looks fondly back at the kids.

OTTO

Y'know, I get more satisfaction from
driving you kids to school than a
hotel room full of naked chicks could
ever give me. Probably.

KIDS

(SING) Hail to the bus driver, bus
driver, bus driver...

(The kids' SINGING gives way to triumphant orchestral strains as we pan in on Principal Skinner, who speaks with quiet reverence.)

SKINNER

Yes, hail to the bus driver...Bus
Driver Man!

FADE OUT:

THE END